Import Duty on Copper

2095. SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Copper Limited has urged the Central Government not to reduce import duty on copper;

(b) whether it is also a fact that if the import duty is reduced the domestic producer will not be able to get fair price for the copper produced; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The import duty on copper is determined keeping in view the interests of both the domestic consumers and M/s. Hindustan Copper Limited, the domestic producer. Changes in import duty are effected, whenever necessary, having regard to the international prices. The import duty on unwrought copper was reduced from 140 per cent to 95 per cent *ad valorem* in December, 1987 in view of the rise in international prices.

The Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) has been asked to study the normative cost of copper produced by Hindsutan Copper Limited and also evolve a suitable pricing policy for copper keeping in view the interests of the indigenous producer, the importing agency and the consumers.

Murder of House-Wives in Delhi

2096. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a growing incidence of the murders of housewives in Delhi in the recent past; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the sudden spurt in crime and the steps taken to prevent such incidents in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Implementation of a Supreme Court Judgement

2097. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court judgement of 1985 in which the Court had sentenced Sudha Goel's husband and mother-in-law to death for her murder has remained unimplemented till recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The police has to act on the directions of the Court in this regard. Non-bailable warrants issued by the Additional Session Judge, Delhi, for the arrest of the husband and the mother-in-law were received on 16th January, 1988. The mother-in-law was produced in the court on the 23rd January, 1988 and the other accused surrendered in the court on the same day. They were sent to jail by the court on the 23rd January, 1988.

News-Item regarding Police Torture

2098. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of the 25th December, 1987 regarding the killing of a 9 year old boy allegedly by police torture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted into the matter and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In a landlord-tenant dispute, the wife of the tenant made a complaint on the 24th November, 1987 that her minor son who was admitted in the hospital on the 18th November, 1987, had been beaten by two persons. A case was registered and one of the accused was arrested the same day. On 26th November, 1987 the child expired in the hospital. Inquest proceedings were conducted and the doctor on performing autopsy, opined that injuries were ante-mortem in nature, caused by blunt force-impact. However, the injuries were not sufficient to cause death. Death was due to pneumonities as diagnosed clinically.

The investigation of the case has been transferred to the Crime Branch.

Collection of Payments for Industrial Units

2099. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Reserve Bank of India has recently constituted a Group to examine the feasibility of setting up of "factoring" organisations for collecting payments for supplies by ancillary units to public and private sectors;

(b) if so, what is the composition of the Group and what are the terms and conditions set by the RBI; and

(c) in what way the Group will help in removing the difficulties faced by industrial units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India has constituted a Study Group to examine aspects relating to 'factoring' and to give recommendations. The terms of reference of study group include the need and scope for introduction of factoring institutions (including for exporters in the country), their constitution, area of operations, organisational set up; and their economic and commercial feasibility. Representatives from Government of India, Reserve Bank of India, Commrecial Banks, Industrial Development Bank of India, Export credit Guarantee Corporation and National Institute of Bank Management are the Members of the Group.

Duty on PTA and DMT

2100. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2529 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st December, 1987 and state whether PTA and DMT is allowed duty-free against the export of PSF and PFY which is the basic raw material?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): Yes, Sir. Duty-free Import of PTA and DMT is allowed under the duty-exemption scheme for the exports of PSF and PFY.

Floating of Non-Resident Indian Bonds

2101. SHRI V. NARAYANSAMY:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:
SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India has proposed to float Non-resident Indian bonds and also a scheme for NRIs to invest in the housing sector;